

104-8907

7 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

SUBJECT : Official Cover.

REFERENCE : Memo dtd 23 Sep 53 to IG fr SA-DD/A [REDACTED] same subject. STATINTL

1. I do not concur in either the conclusions or recommendations reached in the referenced memorandum, nor do I subscribe to many of the other views expressed concerning organization.

2. I do not believe that we need to create a new staff which would report to the Director, nor, if it is decided to place responsibility for the "cover function" in the Security Office, do I believe that it is necessary to re-establish that Office as a "sixth major CIA component" reporting to the Director. Creating another staff elsewhere isn't going to solve this problem. Furthermore, I believe that our trend in organization should be toward having fewer components reporting to the Director—not more. The facts are that no one component, new or old, regardless of where it is located, can do this job alone. Some one component, however, does have to be recognized as the official Agency coordinating authority. The Security Office functions "across the board" and the Director of Security has direct access to the Director, notwithstanding the fact that his Office is organizationally located under the Deputy Director (Administration).

3. As you know, we started out in 1951 to find a solution to this problem and at one stage of the game, 18 December 1952, reached an agreement with the Deputy Director (Plans) that "primary responsibility be placed in the Agency Inspection and Security Office and that the Security Officer be authorized to call in appropriate assistance as needed." Since that time, almost a year now, we have made no progress and developments during this period have only served to confuse the situation and allowed it to deteriorate.

4. This is a tough problem to solve, even after the primary responsibility is fixed. It is impossible until it is fixed, and I strongly recommend that it be submitted to the Director for decision without further delay.

A-DD/A:LKW:laq

Distribution:

STATINTL SA-DD/A [REDACTED]  
Director of Security

DD/A: [REDACTED]

DD/A sub: Security -

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L. E. WHITE  
Acting Deputy Director  
(Administration)

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